
ARENA REPORT

Volume II, Number 4

7
WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION
Sunday, October 22, 1989
Orlando Arena
Orlando, FL

Welcome to the fourth issue in volume II of "Arena Report". It's been a hectic couple of weeks since we were last here. Me and Cheryl (Cheryl and I, sorry Lance) started house hunting last weekend so look for another change of address for your fearless leader. Hey, at least it's the same state this time. In the last five years I've lived in Massachusetts, New York, Texas, Connecticut, and Florida. Coast to coast and continent... let's not get carried away. In this issue you'll find this WWF report as well as a report on a good card put on by the FCW, a review of SNME, ramblings, a couple of correspondent reports, (one being the fifth annual "King of the Ring" tournament.) and a slew of letters to ed.

Next issue is tentatively scheduled for 11/12 with an FCW (will now start calling it PWF-Professional Wrestling From Florida which is what the promotion has now dubbed itself.) card as the main event. The NWA only has one date in the state for Nov. so far and it's 11/27 in Pennsecol. Too far, like 428 miles. The second issue of November will be the 27th with the Fed in Daytona Beach. The next issue will also include a review on "Halloween Havoc" and the regular features.

Send all subscriptions, renewals, letters, and match reports to Ron Lemieux, 370 Lake Tahoe Ct. #102, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701. The address change won't probably happen until late December but I'll keep you informed of our adventure. There is a number at the top left corner of this page informing you of how many issues you have left on your subscription. I attended the show today (5:00 start) with four of my co-workers, one fiance, and three kids. (No not all mine, not even the fiance.) Let's hit the home of the Juice.

Opening Match

Boris Zhukov beat Tim Horner in 11:11 when Horner missed a charge into the corner and Boris clotheslined him in the back of the neck. Horner did a few nice moves including a dive through the ropes and a catwalk on the ropes into a monkeyflip. * for Tim.

2nd Match

Rick Martel defeated Brutus Beefcake in 15:31. Slick came out halfway through the bout. Bruti went for a suplex near the ropes but Slick pulled Beefers leg out from under him, thus the pin. Beefcake atomic dropped Slickster after the bout. Dud

3rd Match

Haku and Tito Santana went to a twenty minute draw at 18:45. Thank God this match ended. No excuse for these two guys. We were all almost snoozing. All rest holds. -*

WWF Heavyweight Championship

Hulk Hogan retained his title by turning back Bad News Brown in 10:08.

Bad News punched Hulk before the bell and delivered the ghetto blaster which knocked Hogan out. Makes sense. The jobbers get nailed with it and they're up in a flash. Brown took the belt and left the area. Tony Garea came out and threatened him with a \$25,000 fine in monopoly money. Brown came back out, Hogan came to and they had a decent brawl outside the ring. Guess what the finish was. Your right, the dreaded leg drop. ** for the interesting and different angle. A fan had jumped over the barrier when Hogan was out. He was around 12 years old and he was pointing to the ring. He wanted to try to help Hulk. Maybe it was Doogie Howser M.D.

Return Tag Team Match

The Rockers beat The Fabulous Rougeau Brothers in 14:40. Good match, nice spots, and great heat. A girl in the front row was crying as the Ragus beat the snot out of Shawn Michaels. Another girl threw an ice cube and then almost slugged the security woman when she came over to yell at her. Jacques piledrove Jannetty but when the ref was busy with Raymond, Michaels piledrove Jacques and put Marty on top for the pin. *** $\frac{1}{2}$

6th Match

Nikolai Volkoff pinned Paul Roma at 8:26 to complete the Russian sweep. Roma had Nic up for a slam when Volkoff grabbed the top rope and when Paul tugged, the russkie landed on top for the pin. Worse than Hatchoo and Chico. -**

Final Match

Dusty Rhodes beat Big Boss Man in his return home at 8:25. Big pop for big Dust. Slick got an avalanche from Boss Man when Hogan moved out of the way. Slick then went to get the nightstick and he hit Bubba instead which led to Dusty pinning BBM. Afterwards, Bubba and Slick had words. ** $\frac{1}{4}$

Orlando Notes

The big news is that the 1990 Royal Rumble will take place January 21 here at the Orlando Arena. It'll be my first live PPV event.... The crowd tonight was 9,200 which is good but I expected more for Hogan. Maybe the rest went to the PWF show. Yeah, right... They announced three bouts for the Daytona Beach card: Savage-Duggan, DiBiase-Roberts (can't believe they're already booking Jake in Daytona again), Hart Foundation-Rockers. Sounds decent on paper.

Ramblings

Jumbo Beretta & Dennis Knight won the tag titles from the Nasty Boys in Tampa on 10/17. I heard the Orlando card Tuesday afternoon before the Tampa show and they had already announced the Florida tag title match with Beratta & Knight defending. That's wrestling I guess... Ron Bass and Dory Funk Jr. said to be headed in. They keep throwing around Kevin Sullivan's name but that's just cheap promoting... Heard the WWF is trying to bring in Norman who would be billed as George Steele's nephew. Please.... The WWF had to cancel their show in San Francisco Friday night due to the earthquake. Vince wasn't too happy as they would have drawn 10,000 people. Sorry Vinnie, some things are more important. Speaking of the quake, I hope all our readers and friends made it through okay... Kudos to Dave Meltzer. Through rain, snow, wind, or earthquakes, the Observer will go out on time. It should be his new motto... The Rockers were fired and then rehired the next day while in Europe. We can figure what they did... Curt Hennig, another whiffer who placed a call to the NWA... Barry Windham may have been in Europe last week but he's still no-showing everywhere and no one knows why... Bret Hart has been

FLORIDA CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

October 15, 1989

Eddie Graham Sports Complex
Orlando, FL

Opening Match

Dennis Knight beat "Powerhouse" Tim Parker in 11:09. You've seen Parker recently as a TBS jobber. Knight is the worst jobber imaginable. Diamond Dallas calls him Elmer Fudd on the tv show. Looks like him too. Parker went for a monkeyflip in the corner but Knight held the ropes and Tim fell on his back. Knight used the trunks for the pin. Dud

2nd Match

Lou Perez beat The Terminator via DQ in 8:41. Termie is the one that is Roadie Animal's brother. He should replace Johnny Ace. He's alot better. He did an Animal flying shoulderblock off the ropes that popped the crowd. (?) Terminator threw "Lightning" Lou over the top rope for the DQ. **

Caribbean Heavyweight Championship

Ron Slinker won the Caribbean title by defeating Tyree Pride in 8:01. Pride is pretty decent and Slinker is adequate as a heel. Tyree throws those Bobby Fulton type punches where he smacks his own chest for some good sound effects. Kendall Windham came out to ring-side. Ref Mickey Jay took a bump and Kendall came in and nailed Tyree with two chair shots to the head while Slinker held him. Pride was this weeks blade winner as he opened up his head. Slinker layed on top for the pin as Windham revived the ref. You want to see title changes J.L. Move to Florida. We have them weekly. I wouldn't call them major though. ** $\frac{1}{2}$

Florida Heavyweight Championship

Steve Keirn retained his title turning back Jumbo Beretta in 17:03. Another decent bout. Jumbo may be the best big guy I've seen. Very agile. Keirn came out with his body guard. Boy, even Stevie Wonder can see where that is headed. End came as Dennis Knight ran out to distract Mark (the body guard and in this instance, I can use that word.) while Terminator jumped in the ring and clubbed Keirn with brass knucks. Jumbo layed on top and I thought, another title change. But Steve put his foot on the bottom rope at two. Great false finish. Beretta then lifted Keirn who flipped over his back and cradled big Jumbo for the victory. ** Bill Apter asked me if Beretta was Robert Blake under the mask. Funny guy that B.A.

Florida Tag Team Championship

The Nasty Boys went to a double count out with Kendall Windham &.... Dennis Knight. Up until this point thegroup was doing great for no shows, a point that they were their weakest at. No no-shows until this bout. Some TV was plugging Mulligan as Kendall's partner and some Big Al Greene. Neither were there. So why Knight as a sub. Maybe the FCW has a Pat Patterson in it's camp. And then they have the gall to not let the Nasties win on a pin. Great brawling out on the fan's side of the barrier. A girl next to me threw a coke on Windham's back and he spit in her face. I should have hit her for him. I hate that crap. They all brawled back to the dressing room for the count out. ** $\frac{1}{2}$

FCW Notes

The crowd wasn't much better since their layoff. It was 149. But give them some time. With their new time slot on TV and if they can bring in a few names, they may do better.... They will be running weekly again and I just received this Sunday's line up. (10/22) Slinker-Keirn title vs. title, Windham-Perez, Frankie Lancaster & Tim Parker vs. Berreta & Knight in a tag title match which means an office title change had to occur as there was no show booked Monday night and I got this card Tuesday. Nasties probably got canned again. I wouldn't be surprised if they bitched about that finish with Knight. I would have.... Also Pride vs. Terminator and Dan Reilly's favorite, Rock Hard Rick (sounds more like Tommy Young's favorite) against Al Greene.... I won't be going as Vince is in town that day at 5:00. I could shoot over to the complex after the WWF show but I'll pass...

Saturday Night's Main Event Review

1) Randy Savage beat Jimmy Snuka after hitting "Superfly" with Sherri's purse. Since I knew who would win, the only curiosity I had was if Sherri was going to fall out of her dress. Snuka should turn. He's a sick looking guy. Savage is too talented to be doing this circus gimmick. ** $\frac{1}{4}$ 2) Hulk Hogan beat Ted DiBiase in the worst Hulk match I've seen on SNME. Ted couldn't save this one. As Zeus held Hulk, Ted went for a clothesline but Hogan ducked. Ted got pinned with a small package. After, they attacked Hogan until Jake Roberts made the save. $\frac{1}{2}$ * 3) Roddy Piper beat Haku with a belly to belly suplex. Piper is one of a kind. ** 4) Tito Santana and Rick Martel went to a double DQ in a match that saw all the wrestlers from the respective teams in the Survivors come out and play lumberjacks. I still love Tito's flying forearm. Good action. Santana is always a consistent performer. Tito went for the figure four when Slick got on the apron. He hit the Slickster and then Boss Man came in the ring. That brought Dusty, Beefcake, Rooster, Honkey, and Akeem in the ring for a brawl. Ref called for the bell. *** 5) Bushwhackers downed the Rougeau Brothers as the Whackers gave the double knee to Raymond. Pitiful bout. Dud

Correspondent Reports

Pershing Municipal Auditorium

Lincoln, NE

October 7, 1989

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Tugboat pinned Brooklyn Brawler after a slam and a splash in a real dud in 14:00. 2) Bad News Brown used trunks to defeat Bret Hart at 13:08. Fans (female) are really into Bret. 3) Hercules used a reverse cradle to pin Nikolai Volkoff in 8:00. 4) Dusty Rhodes beat Big Boss Man in 10:08 as Slick hit Bubba with the nightstick by mistake and Dusty followed with the pin. The fans were going crazy for the "Nightmare". 5) Curt "Perfect" Hennig downed Brutus Beefcake using the ropes for leverage at 16:08. Bruce says Brutus should go back to San Francisco as the boys like him there. 6) Demolition beat Brain Busters on a count out at 8:00. Demo carried the bout. 7) Jake Roberts beat Ted DiBiase in 17:00 as Virgil interfered for the DQ. After the bout, Ted was gone from ring-side and Jake put the DDT on Virgil and the snake act followed. Att: 3,15

Providence Civic Center

Providence, RI

October 14, 1988

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

This was the fifth annual "King of the Ring" tournament. A strange concept by Vince as it's a Rhode Island event and never gets national publicity. The first two were held in Foxboro at Schaffer Stadium and

the next three in Providence. Onto the first round: 1) Haku beat Terry Rooster in 7:52 with a savate kick to the throat. Taylor keeps going down. 2) Jim Neidhart and Hercules were both eliminated as they fought to a double count out at 7:43. They shook hands after the bout. 3) Luke Williams small packaged Nic Volkoff in 5:31. All comedy. 4) Rick Martel used a Boston crab to make Bill Woods submit at 7:28. Woods was a sub for Hillbilly Jim. No big loss there. 5) Akeem upset Brutus Beefcake in 5:11. Bruti was going for a slam when Slick pulled his legs out from under him and Akeem fell on top for the pin. 6) Jimmy Snuka beat The Barbarian with a flying body press at 7:43. 7) Tito Santana defeated Bad News Brown with the flying forearm in 4:00. 8) Warlord beat Butch Miller with a clothesline in 3:35. Second Round : 1) Rick Martel boston crabbed Luke Williams in 8:50. Bout wasn't bad as Rick worked his tail off. 2) Jimmy Snuka rolled up Haku in 6:49. 3) Tito Santana downed Warlord with the flying burrito (sorry, that's Manny Fernandez's move.) in 6:06. Akeem received a bye. Semi-Finals: 1) Rick Martel beat Jimmy Snuka in 8:03. "Superfly" looked worn out at this point. He hit the Mod Martel with a flying press but Martel rolled on top for the win. 2) Tito Santana beat Akeem as the big guy missed a corner charge and Tito rolled him up in 5:19. Main Event: Dusty Rhodes beat Boss Man as Slick once again conked Bubba with the nightstick. Time was 8:08. Tourney Final: Tito Santana became the "King of the Ring" when he beat Rick Martel in 7:12. Martel was going for the victory using the corner buckle for leverage. The ref caught it and tapped him on the shoulder and Rick thought he won. As he was celebrating, Tito rolled him up. Previous winners: 1985-Harley Race 1986-Don Muraco 1987-Randy Savage 1988-Ted DiBiase Att: 4,500 Is the '86 winner correct Scott? Barry Windhsm was a no show in this tourney as he was on the European tour. Volkoff took his place.

Letters To The Editor

Ginzburg Letter Offends Former 'Special' Bus Rider

As you know, "Arena Report" has never been one of my favorite wrestling newsletters, since I tend to enjoy the bulletins which, if they don;t photo copy and print stories straight out of Wrestling Eye or the Apter mags, at least they get a little bit lewd and tastefully crude. After reading a letter in the Vol. II, #2 issue of "AR", in which Mr. Evan Ginzburg makes jest at the expense of those yellow school busses which transport special education students to places like the zoo, you can bet your newsletter is now my least favorite sheet--ranking somewhere behind waxed toilet paper and the kind of sheets slept on by chronic bed wetters.

You see, when I was a kid who had this problem with the right side of my brain, I had to ride on one of those yellow "generically" marked busses. In fact, one year when school district officials were trying to decide where to place me, they got side tracked and forgot all about me, and I had to ride old bus No. 744 all day long, non-stop, for six months, from 7:30 in the morning until 6 o'clock at night, without getting off, except when the bus driver had lunch at Seven-Eleven mini-mart and he let me get out to eat a hot dog and look at the wrestling magazines with him.

If it were not for the kindness of this special education bus driver, I probably would not be able to read newsletters like your or Harvey Cobb's, let alone be able to figure out what is going on in the weekly sheets, especially the one containing small print and big words like "incarnations".

So, in the future, no more insensitive letters or references about the courageous kids who travel our nation's highways and byways in those special yellow busses. Think about it. Do you ever hear Vince McMahon

or Jesse "The Body" Ventura knock or make jokes about these vehicles or their occupants? Of course not. Unlike you, who prints a letter like Evan Ginzburg's, Ventura and McMahon know exactly where the WWF's fan base comes from and they are not about to offend it. On behalf of all those who ride "old No. 744", I will look forward to an apology from my brother in wrestling (Ginzburg) in a future issue of "AR".

Jack Hammeroyd
San Jose, CA

Back In Business

I watched the 9/30 Madison Square Garden card on the MSG cable channel last night. It was their first time back since the Garden re-opened and the matches were all really good, and the whole thing was very entertaining except the Valentine vs. Garvin match which was the recipient of mucho boring chants. The crowd went nuts over the Warrior-Andre match and I was surprised myself how good it was considering everything I've read about it in many recent newsletters. They went crazy over Piper too. I thought he stunk.

Also, I did not respond to your recent inquiry of whether you should not do two newsletters when there are no live reports. So, I'll take the opportunity now. You should still do two newsletters per month. How often does that happen anyway? Not very often, so nobody cares. Your newsletter is still interesting and informative so don't worry about it.

Marilyn Rundle
New Paltz, NY

Dusty Flair?

As a long time NWA fan and supporter, I'm very dissappointed with things since Ric Flair took charge of the booking committee. The plastic bag and parking lot angles, Paul E. fired, and now it looks like Eddie and Missy are history too. Not only could Eddie have taken Paul E's role (remember how good he was in the UWF as a manager-wrestler) but the marketing possibilities with Missy were endless.

I hate to think that Flair (my all time favorite wrestler) is turning into another Dusty Rhodes as a booker, but it sure looks that way, doesn't it?

Jeff Zinger
Ontario, Canada

The Irresistable One

From reading my reports over the last three years, you know that the Pittsburgh and Wheeling areas have a considerable contingent of wrestling heel fans. The Pittsburgh ringleader is "The Irresistable One". His presence at ringside always insures a pleasant evening for myself and countless others who enjoy or tolerate his frolicsome behaviour. Even the group of old ladies love his antics because he teases them and they love getting some of his attention. The security guards and police have never come over to scold or escort him out of the Pittsburgh Civic Arena or any other venue. Why? Because he never hurls anything but insults, which are clean, and most often quite witty. Since the "One" doesn't elicit obscene gestures or remarks, the authorities remain powerless. The only folks who despise the "Irresistable One" are the so-called baby face wrestlers. In the past two recent cards, Hacksaw Jim Duggan spat on him, Jake Roberts gave his perceived length of the "One's" private, The Rockers swore obscenely at him because the "One" called Jannetty "Kermit the Frog", Tommy Young gave him the meanest glare along with some choice comments after "The One" questioned him for checking Jacko Victory's groin bump due to the locker room rumors and very sadly, Ric Flair gave the "One" a very distasteful pelvic thrust while beseeching him to come into the ring and debased the NWA World belt by calling the "One" a faggot in front of a

live family audience. It never ceases to amaze me that the heels can take far worse verbal and often times physical abuse and it rarely bothers them. However, the babyfaces seem to earn their moniker because they act so childish at times when the ball is in their court.

John Lanigan
McKeesport, PA

This & That

Here's a rare serious letter from me on a few things that have been on my mind: 1) The only people that could actually prefer the WWF to the NWA are new fans who have no idea how great the WWF/WWWF once was and who believe the propaganda that is force fed to them each week by McMahon. I don't care about how great their show looks technically, that Hulk Hogan is a household name, or that their mass marketing is such a success. When I pay top dollar for a wrestling ticket I want to see good wrestling and that generally isn't the case in the WWF. Also, Madison Square Garden use to be the mecca of pro wrestling and now it's just another stop on the WWF's never ending carnival tour. 2) It is a shame that a guy like Andre the Giant has to be in the ring at this point in his career. He is washed up and physically disabled; his reputation is destroyed. Doesn't a guy like him save money so every drop of blood doesn't have to be drained? McMahon's capitalizing on his name- let the guy retire with some dignity. I find it real sad that guys like Ken Patera and Tony Garea hang on so long that people forget that they were main eventers and truly great in their youth. 3) When it comes to promoting, McMahon is a genius in comparison to the NWA powers. Doesn't anyone realize that the Road Warriors have lost their edge this year as have Cornette/Midnights? Can you imagine what McMahon would do with a team like the Warriors-they'd be huge. The Road Warriors alone should sell thousands of tix in NWA arenas and it doesn't seem to be the case. 4) Why doesn't the NWA bring in some more Japanese guys and really set their product apart from the WWF? 5) Since the WWF has truly great wrestlers like the Brain Busters, Rockers, Savage etc., why can't they have 3/4 of the card in the new campy WWF style with as many stupid animals, gimmicks etc. as they want but also put on 1/4 of the card in the old style and provide some excitement for the hardcore fans too. This way they can reach both markets and please everyone.

Evan Ginzburg
Bayside, NY

Halloween Hammeroyd

Around the old Mullins-Hammeroyd household we are getting ready for Halloween Havoc...and I don't mean the NWA PPV. As you might imagine, All Saints Eve is my twin brother Jack's favorite night of the year, and he's already got his trick or treat costume selection narrowed down to two choices: a Hefty bag over his head with Ric Flair's face painted on it, or his shirtless upper body covered with yellow M & M's... his version of what Dusty Rhodes would look like if someone let all the air out of him.

Of course Jack plans to scare the little neighborhood goblins again when they come to the door for treats. Last year he died his hair blond and pretended to be Tommy Rich, until a small group of parents came by and complained about having to wipe catsup- or something that looked like catsup -off their kids costumes and candy bars. This year I am not exactly sure how he intends to trick the little "tricksters", but lately I've noticed him practicing Muta's mist in the bathroom with the yellow stuff he uses for mouthwash. I don't even want to mention what he did to the apples he passed out as treats last year. And you can bet I'm hiding all the pins, ex-lax, colored doggie biscuits, and moth balls

this year.
Jeff Mullins
San Jose, CA

SNME

Just saw Saturday Night's Main Event. Savage vs. Snuka was probably as well as it could have gone with Snuka in there. To me, Savage flew higher (top rope elbow smash) than he has in a few years. What a great finisher by Zeus. Belongs next to the clip from the May SNME. Zeus was at least humanized a tad. (DiBiase hits Zeus after Hogan ducked and Zeus is stunned) I will say Hogan did a great small package and is better than seeing the legdrop finish over and over. Rest of the show was okay. At least Bushwhackers-Rougeaus was better than Wrestlemania V. And just when I wanted to forget that match.

Chris Antos
Westmont, IL

(continued from page 2)
replaced on the 10/28 Springfield card by Ultimate Warrior who faces Dino Bravo. Could be just because that feud is what's running now. Although their angle hasn't aired yet... The NWA looking to give the NWA strap to Lex Luger at the Feb. PPV... Bill Mercer & Doyle King are the voices of Killer Brook's new promotion in Dallas... Terminator & Kendo Nagasaki are two new names in the NWA. Kendo will accompany Muta to the ring. His gimmick will be to walk backwards to the ring. Jim Herd thinks it will go over with kids. Just like the Ding Dongs... Forget stealing Randy Savage or Ted DiBiase. If you want to make money; go after Ultimate Warrior. He may not be a good wrestler but he'll draw people to the arena. Forget the "We Wrestle" crap. The gist of this business is to make money, correct?... Don't be shocked if you see yours truly listed in PWI Weekly Newsletter. I'll do anything for a free subscription... I loved the guy at the TBS studio who had the "Oakland 2" sign. Love to find out who it was... Tom Burke is the commissioner of Killer Kowalski's new group... What's the deal on the Fulton's wrestling wear. They have tights on one leg. Anyone know? If you do, fill me in... Jonathon Holliday of Stampede fame was beaten up in the dressing room by Dynamite Kid (guy must be a real a-hole) Johnny Smith, and Jerry Morrow due to a payoff that Holiday supposedly stiffed them on during a tour of Nova Scotia... Tom Zenk looked his ultimate worst teaming with Pillman against the Militia on Worlwide. You can see that Martel must have carried him big time when they were the Can-Ams... Nasty Boys off to Singapore on a tour for three weeks... Look for some Ultimate-Poffo matches soon. Too bad this guy is Randy's brother.

Final Word

That wraps up another issue of "Arena Report". Thanks for all the correspondence and you all know who you are. I can't list them individual anymore as there are always too many now... Have a safe and happy Halloween and stay away from the Mullins-Hammeroyd house. Or call Jerry Lawler. He may lend you one of his costumes, Freddy, Jason, whoever. Till next time 11/12.

See ya,

Ron